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March 8, 2022

Ms. A. Shonta Dunston Chief Clerk North Carolina Utilities Commission 430 N. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27603 Via Electronic Submittal

Re:

In the Matter of Old North State Water Company, LLC's

**Application for General Rate Increase** 

Docket No. W-1300, Sub 60

**Settlement Testimony of John McDonald** 

Dear Ms. Dunston:

Attached please find the Settlement Testimony of John McDonald in the above-referenced matter and docket.

The Testimony will be provided to all parties of record, the NC Utilities Commission Staff and NC Public Staff. Sixteen (16) additional copies of the Testimony will be hand delivered to the Clerk's Office immediately following the electronic filing.

If you should have any questions concerning this filing, please let me know. Thank you and your staff for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Isl David 7. Drooz

David T. Drooz

Attorney for
Old North State Water Company, LLC

pbb Enclosures

cc: All parties of record

A Pennsylvania Limited Liability Partnership

California Colorado Delaware District of Columbia Florida Illinois Minnesota Nevada Georgia North Carolina Pennsylvania South Carolina Virginia Washington New Jersey New York Texas

## NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

## RALEIGH

**DOCKET NO. W-1300, SUB 60** 

## BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION BY OLD NORTH STATE WATER COMPANY, LLC FOR AUTHORITY TO ADJUST AND INCREASE RATES FOR PROVIDING WATER UTILITY SERVICE IN ALL ITS SERVICE AREAS IN NORTH CAROLINA

SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY

OF

JOHN MCDONALD

ON BEHALF OF

OLD NORTH STATE WATER COMPANY, LLC

March 8, 2022

- Q. PLEASE STATE FOR THE RECORD YOUR NAME, POSITION WITH OLD NORTH STATE WATER COMPANY, LLC, AND YOUR BUSINESS ADDRESS.
- A. My name is John McDonald, and I am the Managing Member of Old North State Water Company (ONSWC). My business address is 3212 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Suite 200, Birmingham, AL 35222.
- O. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY?
- A. The purpose of this testimony is to support the Joint Settlement Agreement and Stipulation filed in this docket on March 8, 2022.
- Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY SETTLEMENT EXHIBITS?
- A. No, but ONSWC will be filing a late-filed exhibit to update rate case expense through the close of the proceeding. The Public Staff has agreed to an update of rate case expense, and they will likely want to review and comment on the numbers in the exhibit.
- Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY GENERAL STATEMENTS TO MAKE ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC STAFF?
- A. Yes. ONSWC made some concessions in the course of reaching settlement, as did the Public Staff. While the Company would take different positions if the case was going to be litigated, the Joint Settlement Agreement and Stipulation represents a reasonable outcome provided that all the settlement provisions are considered together. I very much appreciate the Public Staff's willingness to work with us in achieving a settlement.
- Q. THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT MENTIONS A COMMITMENT BY INTEGRA WATER, LLC. WILL YOU EXPLAIN THAT COMMITMENT?
- A. Yes. As noted in my rebuttal testimony, Integra is the source of financing for ONSWC. I have the authority to commit Integra to continuing to finance the capital needs of ONSWC,

and I do make that commitment. As a practical matter, ONSWC is on sound footing for its financial needs.

In conjunction with that financing commitment, the Public Staff has agreed to withdraw its recommendation for an infusion of equity to create an actual capital structure of 50% debt and 50% equity, and has agreed to withdraw its recommendation of audited financial statements.

## Q. DOES THIS COMPLETE YOUR SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY?

A. Yes, it does.